

SENATE BILL 91: Repeal e-NC Sunset

2011-2012 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Finance March 22, 2011 Date: **Introduced by:** Sen. Hartsell Prepared by: Heather Fennell **Analysis of:**

PCS to Second Edition Committee Counsel

S91-CSTD-10

SUMMARY: The PCS to Senate Bill 91would extend the sunset provision pertaining to the e-NC Authority. The PCS changes the repeal date from June 30, 2015 to December 31, 2015 and corrects the short title.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to H91, as introduced by Reps. Faison, K. Alexander, Tolson, West, which is currently in House Commerce and Job Development.]

The e-NC Authority is an independent agency within the Department of **CURRENT LAW:** Commerce. The purpose of the Authority is to manage, oversee, promote, and monitor efforts to provide rural counties and distressed urban areas with high-speed broadband Internet access. The Authority also serves as the central rural and urban distressed areas Internet access policy planning body of the State. The authority is directed by law to communicate and coordinate with State, regional, and local agencies and private entities in order to continue the development and facilitation of a coordinated Internet access policy for the citizens of North Carolina.

BILL ANALYSIS: The e-NC Authority was created by the General Assembly in 2003 and designated as the successor entity of the Rural Internet Access Authority. E-NC was initially scheduled to be dissolved effective December 31, 2006; but it was extended for an additional five years and is now scheduled to be dissolved effective December 31, 2011. The PCS to Senate Bill 91 would extend the sunset to December 31, 2015.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective when it becomes law.

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